GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1598
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
HEPATITIS B VACCINATION
S. AJAYA KUMAR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Hepatitis-B cases are increasing rapidly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have launched any pilot project in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide injection and Medicines of Hepatitis-B free of cost in the GovernmentHospitals and dispensaries in each State;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) and (b) Viral hepatitis can be caused by many aetiological agents including viral hepatitis B. Information on the number of cases of viral hepatitis reported to Central Bureau of Health Intelligence (CBHI)over the last few years is annexed. The proportion of cases caused by viral hepatitis B is not reported separately.

(c) to (f) Government have approved a pilot project for introduction of hepatitis B vaccine to infants in the National Immunization Programme. Under this project, infants in 32 districts and slums of 15 large cities will be provided with immunization against hepatitis B, free of cost. Experience gained during the pilot project will be utilized to expand introduction of hepatitis B vaccine in additional districts. The project has been proposed for funding by an external agency, the Global Alliance on Vaccine and Immunization.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXUREREFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) AND(B) OF LOK SABHAUNSTARREDQUESTIONNO.1598 TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.01

REPORTED DATA ON VIRAL HEPATITIS IN INDIA, 1996-1999

Year	No. of Cases
1996	131808
1997	133594
1998	113527
1999+	130269

Source: Central Bureau of Health Intelligence

\+ Data are provisional